



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held May 8, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Recommendation as submitted by Supervisor Burke to direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), working in concert with the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee and key department heads, to review the findings and recommendations in the Advancement Project Report: A Call to Action: A Case for a Comprehensive Solution to LA's Gang Violence Epidemic, submitted to the Los Angeles City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development, by Connie Rice on January 17, 2007, and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's Gang Reduction Strategy released on April 18, 2007, with emphasis on recommendations for a collaborative multi-jurisdictional approach toward combating gangs throughout Los Angeles County; and direct the CAO to develop recommendations for a comprehensive implementation plan, including a cost analysis and the identification of funds necessary to successfully implement the plan, and report back to the Board with the comprehensive implementation plan for final review and approval within 120 days.

Supervisor Burke made the following revised statement:

“Gang violence in Los Angeles County exacts a devastating toll on our children, families, communities and schools. Recent tragedies, such as the fatal shootings of 23-year-old Demetrius Perry at Charles Drew Middle School and 14-year-old Cheryl Greene in Harbor Gateway, dramatically illustrate how innocent lives and communities are at the mercy of a gang culture focused on violence, intimidation and control.

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“The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department reports that overall gang-related crime increased 13% between 2005 and 2006 with 1,076 documented gangs and 80,757 gang members Countywide. While suppression of gang activity is a necessary approach to bringing about safety in our communities, prevention and intervention efforts are equally as critical if we want to stem the tide of at-risk youth seeking the refuge of gangs as a safe harbor and a group with whom they can identify. Preliminary data gathered by the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC) estimates that the County spent approximately \$94 million in FY 2005-06 to address gang violence. Of those dollars, approximately \$76.5 million was spent on suppression efforts.

“Our Chief Administrative Officer also recognizes the need for more resources to be allocated to this problem and has proposed \$6.4 million in additional funding in FY 2007-08 for 47 positions in the Sheriff’s Department, District Attorney’s Office and the Probation Department. However, as evidenced by the steady increase of gang violence, a more comprehensive approach to gang violence in our County is critical.

“On January 17, 2007, Connie Rice submitted to the Los Angeles City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development, the Advancement Project Report: *A Call to Action: A Case for a Comprehensive Solution to LA’s Gang Violence Epidemic*. The report provides in detail 1) the contributory conditions that allow gangs to exist and thrive; 2) the lack of coordination and resources aimed at addressing the problem; and 3) national best practice violence prevention and gang reduction strategies. Finally, the report puts forth recommendations on how to combat gang violence in our communities. While the report focused on the City of Los Angeles, it also emphasized the need for a multi-jurisdictional, regional solution that would require close collaboration between the City of Los Angeles and the County. On April 18, 2007, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa released his Gang Reduction Strategy, which utilizes the Advancement Project’s recommendation and also focuses on a multi-jurisdictional approach to combating gang violence.

“In addition, Sheriff Baca presented his recommendations to the Chief Administrative Officer in a report titled ‘Changing the Paradigm’ in response to the issues raised by Ms. Rice, and he has recognized the importance of input and collaboration from other County departments and agencies, as well as other non-County entities, in order to develop a comprehensive, sustainable, anti-gang strategy.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to:

1. Work in concert with the with Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee (CCJCC) and key County departments and commissions, and to identify additional collaborating partners from other municipal, State, and Federal jurisdictions and/or agencies, as well as nonprofit agencies such as independent think tanks, to review the findings and recommendations in the Sheriff's Report, as well as in the Advancement Project Report and the Mayor's Gang Reduction Report, to address the crisis of gang violence in our County through social service, public safety and juvenile justice agencies;
2. Develop recommendations for a comprehensive implementation plan, including a review of the CCJCC's final gang funding report and a cost analysis to successfully implement the plan; and
3. Report back to the Board with the comprehensive implementation plan for final review and approval within 120 days.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Sheriff
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Director, Countywide Criminal Justice
Coordination Committee